

1929-30-31.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 113.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH MARCH, 1931.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., according to the terms of the Resolution of the 18th December last.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Norman J. O. Makin) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
2. RESIGNATION OF MEMBER AND ISSUE OF AND RETURN TO WRIT (PARKES DIVISION).—Mr. Speaker announced that during the adjournment he had received from the Honorable E. A. McTiernan a letter, dated 19th December, 1930, resigning his seat as Member for the Electoral Division of Parkes, and informed the House that he had, on the 7th January last, issued a Writ for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Parkes, in the State of New South Wales, and that he had received a Return to such Writ, and by the endorsement thereon it appeared that Charles William Clanan Marr had been elected in pursuance of the said Writ.
3. MEMBER SWORN.—The Honorable Charles William Clanan Marr was introduced, and made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
4. DEATH OF MEMBER AND ISSUE OF WRIT (EAST SYDNEY DIVISION).—Mr. Speaker announced, with deep regret, the death, on the 5th February, of the honorable Member for East Sydney (Mr. John Edward West), and informed the House that he had, on the 18th February, issued a Writ for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of East Sydney, in the State of New South Wales, in the place of the deceased gentleman. The dates in connexion with the Election were fixed as follows:—

Date of Issue of Writ	..	..	..	Wednesday, 18th February, 1931.
Date of Nomination	..	..	..	Thursday, 26th February, 1931.
Date of Polling	..	..	..	Saturday, 7th March, 1931.
Date of Return of Writ	..	..	..	On or before Saturday, 14th March, 1931.

5. DEATH OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL—ADDRESS OF CONDOLENCE TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) announced, with deep regret, the death of His Majesty's eldest sister, Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, which occurred on the 4th January, and moved, That the following Address to His Majesty the King be agreed to:—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY :

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN—

We, the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, have received with heartfelt sorrow the news of the death of Your August Sister, Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. We are confident that we give expression to the deep sympathy which Your subjects throughout the Commonwealth feel for Your Majesty in the great loss which has befallen you.

And Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Earle Page having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in silence—

Question—passed.

Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to transmit to His Excellency the Governor-General for submission to the King the foregoing Address of Condolence.

6. DEATH OF MEMBER (MR. J. E. WEST).—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That this House expresses its deep regret at the death of the late Mr. John Edward West, Member for East Sydney in the House of Representatives, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its profound sympathy to the members of his family in their bereavement. And Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Earle Page and Mr. Watkins having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in silence—

Question—passed.

Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to transmit to the members of the family of the late Mr. West the foregoing Resolution, together with a copy of the speeches delivered thereon.

4th March, 1931.

7. DEATH OF THE HONORABLE E. K. BOWDEN.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That this House expresses its deep regret at the death of the late Honorable Eric Kendall Bowden, a former Member of the House of Representatives and Minister of the Crown, places on record its appreciation of his meritorious public service, and tenders its profound sympathy to his widow and family in their bereavement.
And Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Earle Page and Mr. Rowe having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in silence—
Question—passed.
Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to transmit to Mrs. Bowden the foregoing Resolution, together with a copy of the speeches delivered thereon.
8. DEATH OF DAME NELLIE MELBA.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That this House expresses its deep regret at the death of Dame Nellie Melba, and tenders its profound sympathy to her relatives in their bereavement.
And Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Earle Page and Mr. W. Maloney having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in silence—
Question—passed.
Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to transmit to Mr. George Armstrong, the late Dame Nellie Melba's son, the foregoing Resolution, together with a copy of the speeches delivered thereon.
9. EARTHQUAKE IN NEW ZEALAND.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That this House expresses its profound regret at the tragic loss of life that occurred in consequence of the serious earthquake in the Hawkes Bay District of New Zealand on Tuesday, 3rd February last, and tenders its heartfelt sympathy to the Government of New Zealand and to the relatives of the victims of the disaster.
And Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr. Earle Page and Mr. W. Maloney having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in silence—
Question—passed.
Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to transmit to the Prime Minister of New Zealand the foregoing Resolution.
Mr. Speaker informed the House that immediately after the disaster he despatched the following cablegram to the Prime Minister of New Zealand :—
“ On behalf of Members House of Representatives Australia I desire to convey sincere sympathy with you and people of New Zealand in the loss of life and suffering caused by calamitous earthquake.”,
and that he had received the following reply thereto :—
“ Government and people of New Zealand deeply appreciate kind message of sympathy in earthquake calamity from Members Australian House of Representatives. It will be conveyed to sufferers in stricken districts.”
10. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) then moved, as a mark of respect, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
And then the House, at twenty-five minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Anstey, Mr. Beasley, Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Guy, Mr. James, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mathews, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Stewart.

E. W. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.